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Nation Builders

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US Army Corps
of Engineers

Committed to ...

Greater Service

The Corps team is committed to improving its current mission performance in order to prepare for yet greater service. Our vision is to achieve a vibrant, competent, energetic, respected Corps team--inspired by our past and proud of our accomplishments, yet motivated by the honor we share in serving our Nation as Corps of Peace.

Lieutenant General Henry J. Hatch
Chief of Engineers

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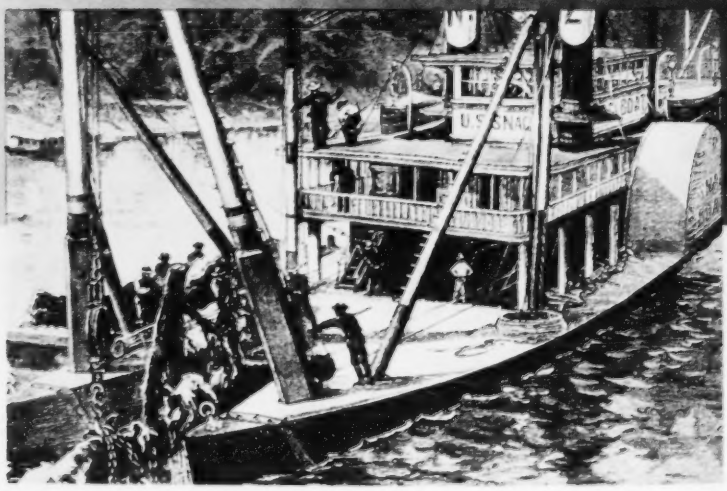
Tradition

Since the beginnings in June, 1775, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has maintained a tradition of responding to the Nation's military and civil engineering needs. In earlier times, those needs included coastal fortifications and lighthouses, surveying and pathfinding on the frontier, construction of public buildings, snagging and clearing of river channels, and operation of such early National Parks as Yellowstone and Yosemite.

Today's engineering needs are different--complex military facilities, flood control, comprehensive water resources management, environmental restoration, management of toxic wastes, energy, the space program, etc. What is unchanged is the Corps' commitment to "providing quality, responsive engineering service to the Nation in peace and war." The Corps received its missions through presence. It keeps them through excellence.



Tradition

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Capabilities

Today's Corps of Engineers provides engineering and related services in four broad areas:

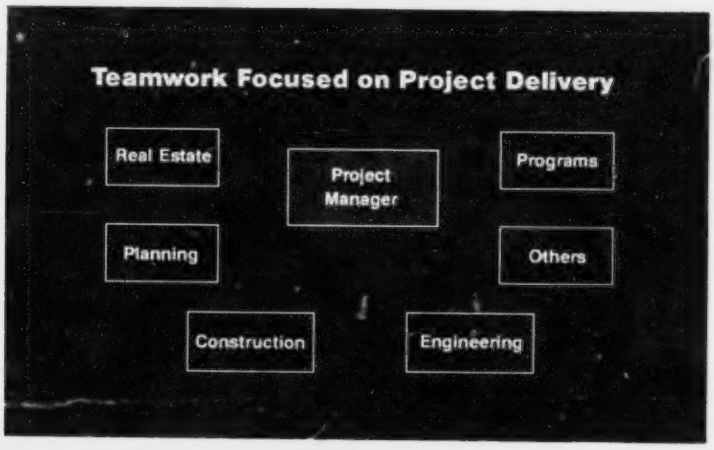
- Water and natural resource management (Civil Works)
- Military construction and support
- Engineering research and development
- Support to other government agencies

Carrying out these missions is a network of 13 regional headquarters (listed in this booklet), 39 district offices, four major laboratories and research centers and hundreds of offices at projects throughout the country. The Corps employs not only more than 48,000 military and civilian members, but also the services of more than 1,000 architect-engineer and construction firms.

The increasing complexity of the Nation's needs has stimulated the Corps to develop into a professional organization representing over 100 specialty areas. In addition to the types of expertise normally associated with a modern engineering organization, the Corps offers research and development capability, natural resource management, real estate and procurement and contracting services.

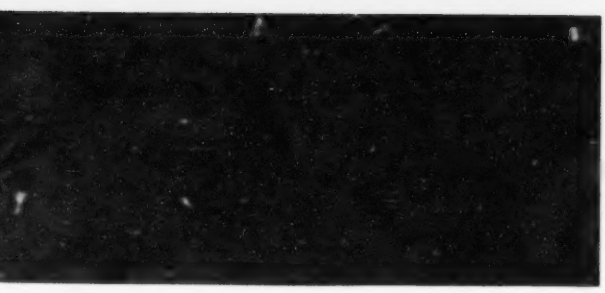
The Corps also offers a well-established process for public involvement in project planning; excellent working relationships with other Federal agencies, state and local officials, project sponsors and the private sector; and a decentralized "full service" organization capable of quick response.

Capabilities



Life Cycle Project Management

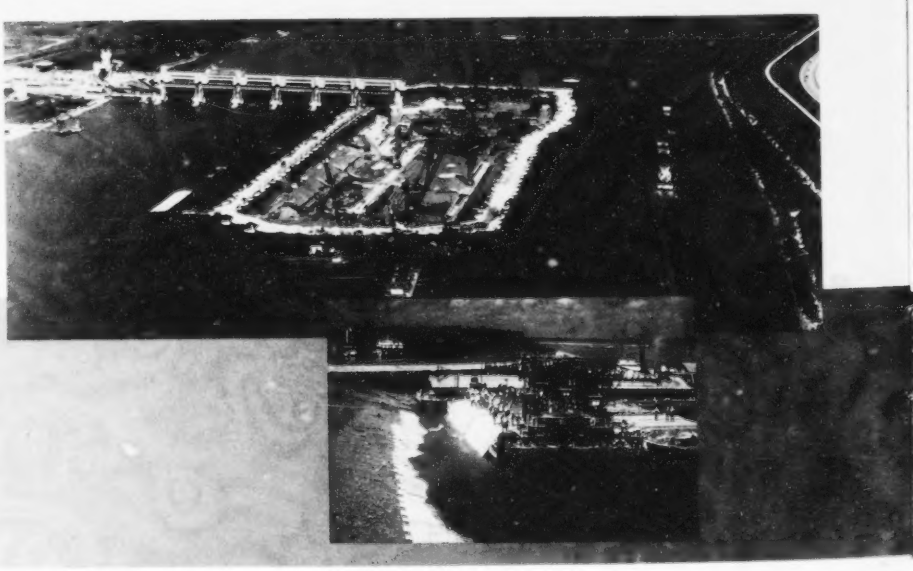
Project delivery is the Corps' business. From conception of a project until its completion and turnover to the ultimate user; the Corps provides complete project management services. These include not only the necessary systems to manage cost, budget and scheduling details; but also the ability to work with all parties involved in the project: sponsors, planners, designers, builders, operators and interest groups. Corps Life Cycle Project Managers (individuals or teams) serve as points of contact for customers to ensure that they are fully informed and involved, forecast trends and resolve problems, and oversee all phases of project development, ensuring the delivery of "a quality product, on time and within budget."



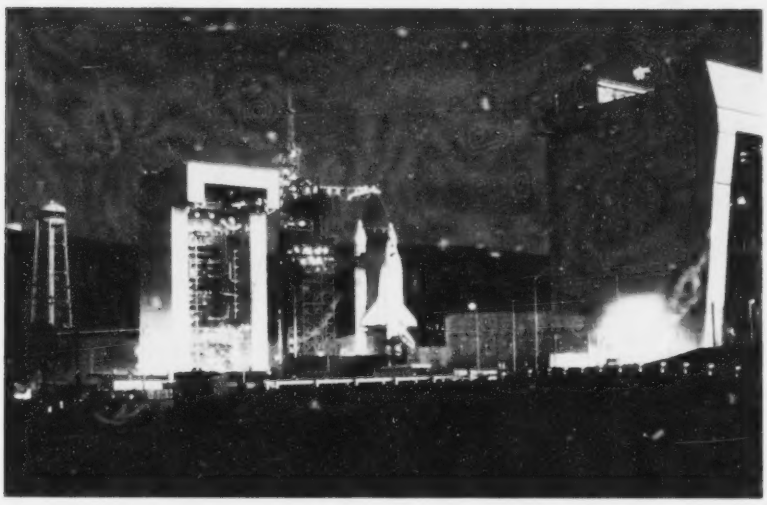
Capabilities

Water & Natural Resource Development

- Construction and maintenance of channels at 500 harbors and on 25,000 miles of inland waterways; and construction and operation of waterway locks and dams
- Flood Plain Management Service advice to over 3,000 communities
- Shoreline erosion control and storm protection
- Multipurpose reservoirs
  - Production of 30% of U.S. hydroelectric power
  - Storage of 9.5 million acre-feet of water for municipal, industrial and agricultural needs
  - Operation of over 2,000 recreation areas
- Habitat management and development; preservation of fish and wildlife resources
- Regulation of construction and dredge-and-fill operations in all waters of the U.S., including wetlands
- Emergency response to natural disasters.



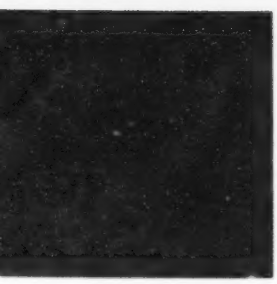
Capabilities



WHAT WE DO

Military Construction and Support

- Design and construction management of over $5 billion a year in facilities for the Army and Air Force, including Army Family Housing.
- Third-party contracts for facilities acquisition
- Contracting for installation maintenance and repair projects
- Revitalization of aging facilities
- Communities of Excellence Program at Army installations
- Environmental studies
- Advice to installation commanders
- Environmental restoration of current and former defense installations
- Topographic engineering
- Acquisition, management and disposal of real property.



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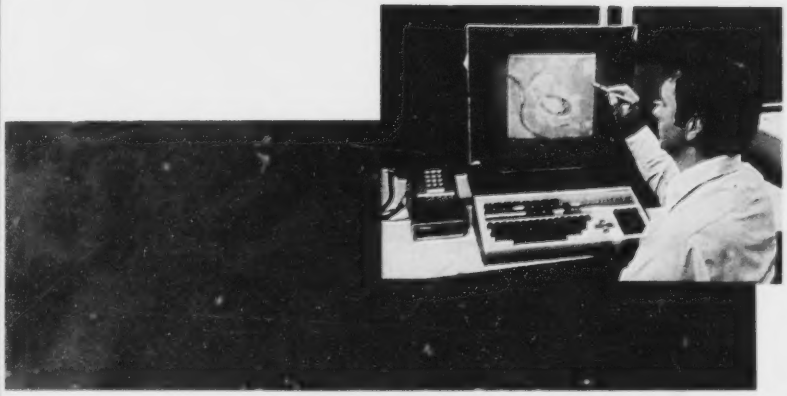
Capabilities



Research and Development

The Corps' internationally recognized laboratories and research centers are in the forefront of development and adaptation of technology. Corps research and development includes an aggressive program of technology transfer of research products to practical applications. Areas of emphasis include:

- Construction Productivity Advancement Research
- Water quality
- Infrastructure and operations technology
- Materials research
- Environmental quality and restoration
- Dredging operations
- Remote sensing applications
- Computer technology applications

Capabilities

Support for Other Government Agencies

Many agencies faced with major construction programs rely on the Corps for engineering, construction management, planning, real estate, research and development and other reimbursable support. Among current and previous "Support for Others" activities are:

- Space shuttle launch and landing facilities for NASA
- Design and construction management for sewage treatment facilities under the EPA Construction Grants program
- Design and execution of toxic and hazardous waste removal projects under the EPA Superfund Program
- Bulk mail facilities for the U.S. Postal Service
- Waste Isolation Pilot Plant and other Department of Energy facilities
- Federal Emergency Management Agency flood insurance studies
- Transmitters for the Voice of America
- Real estate and restoration work for the National Park Service
- Embassy construction and security measures
- International activities for the Agency for International Development, the World Bank and several U.N. agencies.

Challenges

The engineering challenges the United States will face as it enters the 21st Century promise to be quite different from those of the past. Nevertheless, they are certain to require a national engineering capability, working in partnership with the private engineering community and state and local government agencies. Among the Nation's emerging engineering needs:

- Construction productivity
- Renewal of deteriorating infrastructure
- Water resources management: wetlands and ocean dumping; coastal and estuarine resources;
- Waste management, including hazardous and toxic waste, solid waste, and nuclear waste
- Energy
- Disaster response and preparedness

No organization is better equipped to meet these challenges than the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Challenges

Water Resources Infrastructure

Droughts and floods have dramatically demonstrated the fragile balance between water supply and demand. Conflicts among competing users of water, including irrigation, municipal and industrial water supply, hydropower, navigation, recreation, streamflow and fisheries are likely to grow. Groundwater levels are dropping as water is pumped faster than it can be replaced through natural recharge; and existing water supplies are being contaminated by hazardous waste disposal practices. The Corps, as the Nation's largest water resources agency, can:

- Plan, design and construct needed facilities
- Conduct comprehensive basin assessments of water resources needs and solutions
- Develop effective partnerships with state, regional and local agencies
- Provide a forum for discussion and resolution of national water policy issues.

Challenges

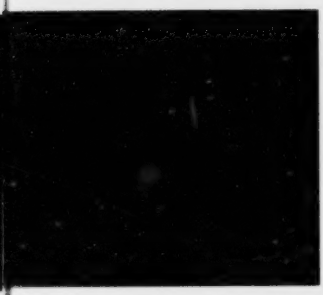
Infrastructure Renewal

Much of America's infrastructure, from highways and bridges to military installations, needs rehabilitation and upgrading. Estimates of the costs involved range well into the trillions of dollars; and a renewal program cannot be approached on a crash basis. Responsibility for Federal infrastructure programs is spread among dozens of agencies. Among them, the Corps is uniquely prepared for a commitment to infrastructure renewal, with:

- Strong in-place capability for cost and quality control
- Experience in planning and building projects with cost sharing by beneficiaries
- Innovative financing mechanisms
- Ability to work in a partnership environment.

Challenges

Environmental Engineering



The need to respond to the challenges of air and water pollution, toxic chemicals, acid rain, garbage on beaches, and development pressure on sensitive environmental resources has been well documented since the "Earth Days" of the early 1970s. The Corps of Engineers is helping the Nation meet its environmental protection needs through:

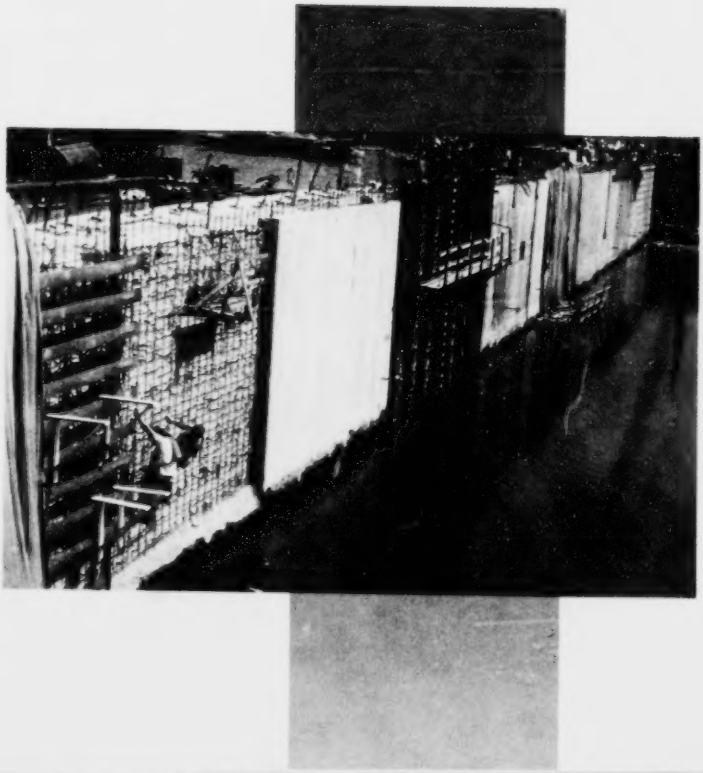
- Planning of water resources projects to avoid or minimize adverse effects and conserve environmental resources
- Two sensitive environmental regulatory programs: wetlands preservation and ocean dumping
- Management of hazardous materials at Defense Department installations, and cleanup of formerly used sites
- Support to the Environmental Protection Agency program and the Department of Energy's radioactive waste management program
- Expertise in all facets of environmental management

Challenges

Construction Productivity

The U.S. construction industry has lost out in the application of new, cost effective technology. As a result, its productivity (as measured by the Bureau of Labor statistics) has declined by 50% in the past 25 years; causing higher construction costs at home and loss of competitiveness abroad. A major factor in that decline has been scarce funding for construction research by industry and government. To remedy the situation, the Corps has initiated the Construction Productivity Advancement Research (CPAR) Program, with costs shared by the Federal government and construction industry. Goals of this program are to:

- Promote development and transfer advanced technology and its commercial adoption
- Improve industry productivity and competitiveness
- Reduce construction costs



Disaster Response and Preparedness

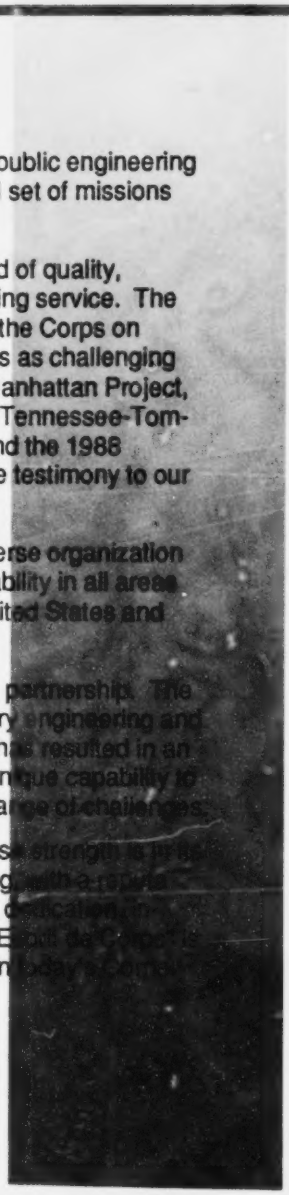
When a major disaster occurs, the Federal Government must often respond and help restore life to its normal pace. When this happens, the Corps of Engineers, becomes one of the most important Federal assets to help clean up and restore devastated areas. When the Corps responds--usually within hours of call--it can bring to bear not only experts from its force of 48,000 people, but also a working relationship with local and state governments and the private architect-engineer and construction industry. Emergencies in which the Corps has responded to include:

- Mexican and Alaskan earthquakes
- Mt. St. Helen's volcanic eruption
- Droughts
- Alaskan oil spill
- Tornadoes and hurricanes
- Floods

Corps response to natural disasters also strengthens its capacity for military mobilization. As the experience of World War II showed, engineering services would be among the first of the nation's needs and would dwarf those of peacetime. Should the Nation ever be called upon to mobilize, the Corps must, and will, be ready.

Today's Corps

- The nation's largest public engineering agency, with a broad set of missions and capabilities.
- A proven track record of quality, responsive engineering service. The accomplishments of the Corps on projects and missions as challenging and diverse as the Manhattan Project, Israeli air bases, the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, and the 1988 drought response are testimony to our capability.
- A geographically diverse organization with full-service capability in all areas of the continental United States and the world.
- A strong civil-military partnership. The combination of military engineering and civil works missions has resulted in an organization with a unique capability to respond to a broad range of challenges.
- An organization whose strength is in its people, 48,000 strong, with a reputation for competence, dedication, integrity and loyalty. "Essayons" is more than a slogan in today's Corps.



US Army Corps
of Engineers

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